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December 23, 2009

The Honorable Jerry E. Abramson, Mayor
Louisville Metro Government
Metro Hall / Fourth Floor
527 W. Jefferson Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Mayor Abramson:

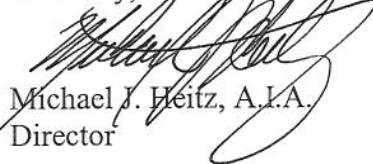
I have received a recommendation for the naming of a Metro facility from the Board of Directors of Historic Locust Grove, Inc., the non-profit corporation which operates Locust Grove under an agreement with Louisville Metro Government. Having completed the expansion of the Visitors Center, the Board recommends that the building be named for the individual who began the campaign to build the Center in 1992 and who has generously supported the expansion.

My staff has researched the career and contributions of Martin F. Schmidt, -- Kentucky businessman, historian, author, philanthropist and Locust Grove supporter. We find him to be a citizen deserving of recognition and hope that recognition by the Metro Council will inspire other citizens to emulate his life of service and accomplishment. At age 91, Mr. Schmidt, a life-long Louisvillian, has retired from his role as volunteer interpreter and Board member, but remains an advisor to the current Board at Locust Grove.

On December 17, 2009, following appropriate notice, a public hearing was held in the Visitors Center of Locust Grove to receive public comment on the recommendation to name the Visitors Center. Representatives of the Historic Locust Grove Board attended to support their recommendation. There were no comments in opposition at the hearing or received at our offices.

Therefore, I am asking your concurrence with the recommendation so that Metro Parks can lay before the Metro Council the proposal to name the Visitors Center of Locust Grove for Martin F. Schmidt.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Heitz, A.I.A.
Director



Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor
Louisville
Metro Council